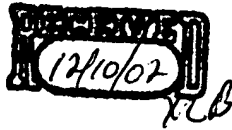


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Received from <518 449 0047> at 12/10/02 2:37:32 PM [Eastern Standard Time]

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DOCKET NO. JP9 1999 0204 US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Nishikawa

Art Unit: 2175

Serial Number: 09/742,657

Examiner: Mahmoudi

Filing Date: 12/21/2000

Title: DATABASE SYSTEM INCLUDING HIERARCHICAL LINK TABLE

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This paper is being filed in response to the Office Action data 9/11/02. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the following amendment and remarks.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

A1
The present invention provides a database system having a database in which data to be processed by an application program are stored (hierarchical node database). A table (hierarchical link table) in which mainly relationship data (e.g., a pointer) for the database are entered is prepared for a corresponding application program. The individual application